Tactical Voice over Internet Protocol

Purpose: To improve tactical digital communication quality and quantity by inserting voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) hardware and software at all tactical echelons. The incorporation of VoIP may alleviate the need to have two distinct communications networks (one voice, one data) by consolidating them into a single multi-service network while providing an enhanced quality of service.

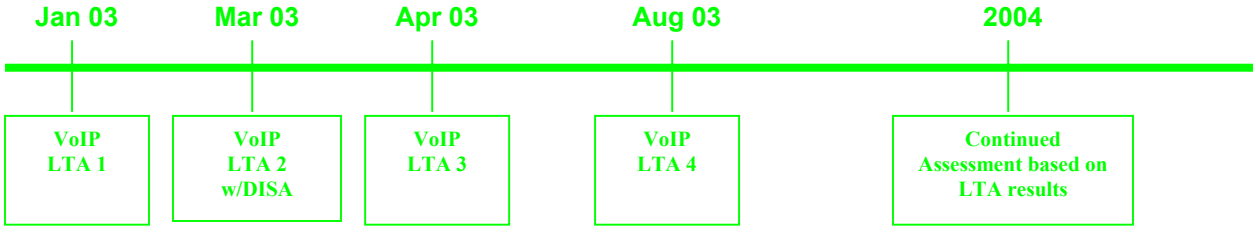
Background: As data requirements increase for combat units, there is increasing competition for communications assets between data and voice nets.

Description: Voice over Internet Protocol or (VoIP) as it is more commonly referred to provides a method of transporting voice communications over existing data networks. This ability to "converge" our communications systems may allow the deployment of only one communication network where we currently deploy several. Improving the quality of communication both in voice and data format, streamlining the asset requirement to provide those communication paths and allow for remote management and control.

The Lab will conduct limited technical experiments (LTAs) with a "converged" communications infrastructure to evaluate the benefits of providing VoIP technologies to field units for use over tactical networks. Testing of VoIP will include configuration and setup, deployment, standardization, measurable Service Level Agreements and evaluation over a variety of data paths.

Deliverable Products: Assessment report on the concept of integrating VoIP with battlefield digital communications. If experimental results are positive, requirements documentation with recommended hardware and software, as well as tactics, techniques and procedures will be developed.

Milestones:



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